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CASEY MADE CALL ON CARTER PAPERS

Ex-Robert Kennedy Aide Says
C.I.A. Director Wanted to
'Refresh His Memory'

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WASHINGTON, July 3 — William J. Casey, the chairman of Ronald Reagan's 1980 Presidential campaign, has apparently sought to refresh his memory about Carter White House briefing papers supplied to the Reagan campaign with a telephone call to a one-time aide of Robert F. Kennedy.

The former aide, Paul Corbin, said in an interview today that Mr. Casey called him in Aruba last week in relation to published reports that before the Carter-Reagan debate, papers prepared to help Mr. Carter were somehow passed to the Reagan campaign. Mr. Corbin, who supported Mr. Reagan in 1980, said he told Mr. Casey that he had provided no such papers.

Some of Mr. Reagan's senior aides, including James A. Baker 3d, the White House chief of staff, have admitted receiving the papers, but they have vague and differing recollections as to how they did so. Mr. Baker said he recalled that Mr. Casey had sent them to him, but Mr. Casey said in a letter to a House subcommittee that he had "no recollection that I ever received, heard of or learned in any other way" of the Carter documents.

White House Abandons Inquiry

Mr. Casey, now Director of Central Intelligence, has declined to return repeated telephone calls in the past few days.

The White House has supplied the Federal Bureau of Investigation with the names of persons interviewed by Fred J. Fielding, the President's counsel, as part of an internal White House inquiry into how the Reagan campaign obtained the papers. Among the names, according to an Administration official, are those of secretaries and low-level employees who had worked in the Nixon and Ford Administrations and were held over by the Carter White House.

In Santa Barbara, Calif., where President Reagan and his wife, Nancy, are spending a long weekend at their ranch, Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said the White House had abandoned its own inquiry into the purloined papers now that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had begun its investigation.

Mr. Speakes also said that a published report that Mr. Fielding had provided the Justice Department with a list of potential suspects from the White House staff members he interviewed had been "badly hyped." He said Mr. Fielding would make the names of people he had interrogated available to the department, but that these people should not be considered "suspects."

As the criminal investigation goes forward, the F.B.I. has scheduled appointments this week with senior Reagan aides, including Mr. Baker and David R. Gergen, the White House director of communications, as well as with a number of former Carter aides.

Mr. Corbin, who worked in the Presidential campaigns of John and Robert Kennedy and campaigned for Mr. Reagan in 1980, confirmed today that Mr. Casey had called him last Wednesday in Aruba, where he was vacationing. He said he told Mr. Casey that the only information he had provided was some "speech" material on crime from Adam Walinsky, a former aide to Robert Kennedy, chairman of the New York State Commission of Investigation at the time.

"He called me and said he wanted to refresh his memory on whether I had given him anything other than that Walinsky speech and I told him I had not," said Mr. Corbin. "Casey said that somebody said, 'You gave me something,' and I said what I gave you was the speech."

Mr. Walinsky said in an interview that what he had sent the Reagan campaign at Mr. Corbin's request was basically the same material he provided to anyone on request.

Meanwhile, Representative Donald J. Albosta, the Michigan Democrat who is heading a Congressional investigation into whether ethics and criminal law were violated by the transfer of Carter materials to the Reagan campaign, said he thought Mr. Casey would make "a very interesting witness" before his subcommittee.

"Certainly," Mr. Albosta said in a weekend interview on the Cable News Network, "there's something there in Mr. Casey's memory that seems to have gone blank. He could remember details during the hearings he had with the Senate on many items of years back."